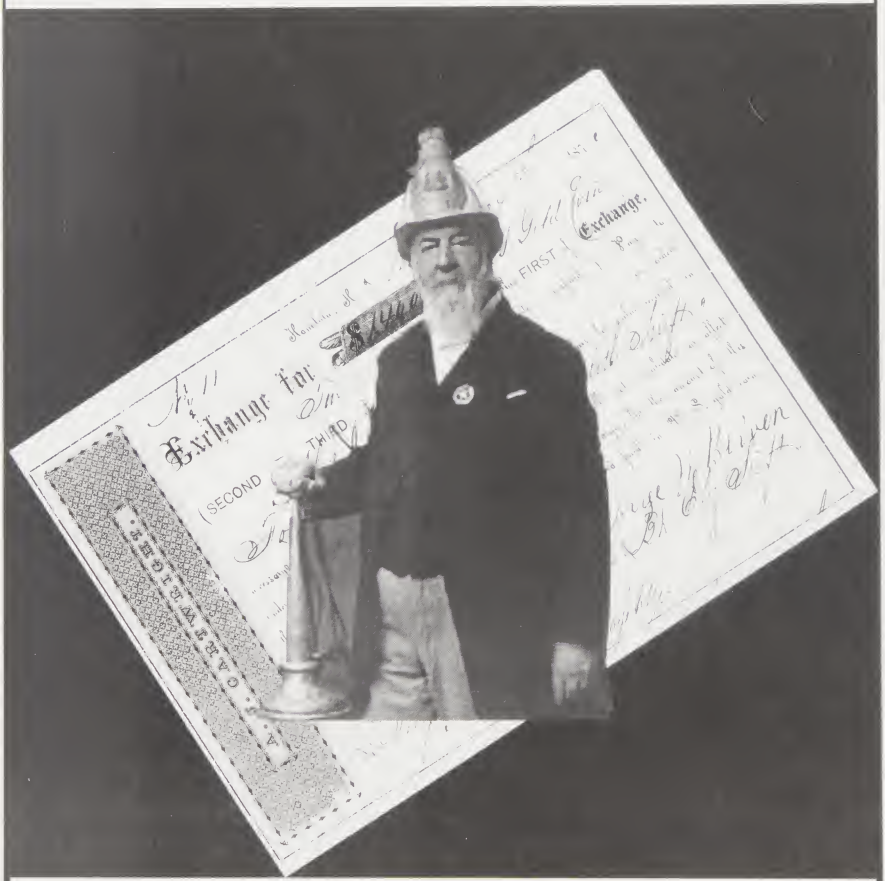
THE CHECK COLLECTOR

January-March 1999 | The Journal of | Number 49
THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CHECK COLLECTORS, INC.



What is this man doing in the Baseball Hall of Fame?

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To our members:

Write something for *The Check Collector*! We need articles about checks, check-related subjects, and fiscal documents. See the list of 32 areas of collecting interests on the inside back of the mailing cover for ideas.

We retype all material. Illustrations require an **original** or a **good, clear, black and white copy, preferably as large as can be obtained**. Original checks sent in are copied and returned carefully. Any questions, ask the Editor!

To our advertisers:

Deadline for advertising copy to run in the April-June issue of *The Check Collector* is May 10.

The Check Collector is an effective means of reaching the check collecting hobby, and our membership of collectors and dealers of checks and related financial documents. It contains feature articles about checks and check collecting and news about the hobby.

Advertising orders must be paid in advance and shall be restricted to checks and related fiscal documents, publications, accessories, and supplies. The ASCC accepts advertising in good faith, reserving the right to edit copy. Copy for ads must be camera-ready or the Editor will set it as best he can.

ASCC assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising. However, it will reprint that portion of an advertisement in which a typographical error appeared upon prompt notification of such error.

Contents

4 Baseball - *Leifer*
7 World Checks - *Spence*
13 Cumulative Index
20 Conversation Piece - Mule Check - *Kemp*
21 One Man - Two Tax Periods - *Carson*
22 River Packet - *Horstman*
23 Lovell, Oklahoma - *Boraker*
24 Unlisted in Castenholz - *Castenholz*
26 Letter to the Editor
27 Letter to the Editor (excerpt)
27 Autograph Collecting
28 President's Announcements
28 Treasurer's Report
29 Secretary's Report
30 Member Exchange

?

The USS Columbia

(See the Letter to the Editor on Page 26 for details.)

Advertising rates are as follows:

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The Man Who Invented Baseball

by Coleman Leifer

One of the types of documents that were subject to Civil War-era taxes was Foreign Bills of Exchange. The bill of exchange pictured in **Figure 1** originated in Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands. Hawaii was, in 1870, an independent country. The signer of the bill, George W. Bliven, the Master of the bark "Elizabeth Swift," is directing Swift and Allen, a New Bedford, Massachusetts merchant, to pay Alexander J. Cartwright $1400 in U.S. gold coin. However, Cartwright had endorsed the bill over to Louis McMurray & Company, a Baltimore, Maryland fruit and oyster dealer. The bill was issued in Honolulu on November 24, 1870 and accepted by Swift and Allen on December 21.

The document is an incoming Foreign Bill of Exchange. It was taxed at the Inland Exchange rate of five cents per $100, and the seven 10-cent revenue stamps pay the 70 cents tax due. The stamps were affixed and canceled by L. McMurray and Co. on December 23. This bill of exchange is an example of the manner in which these bills served as a form of commercial currency.

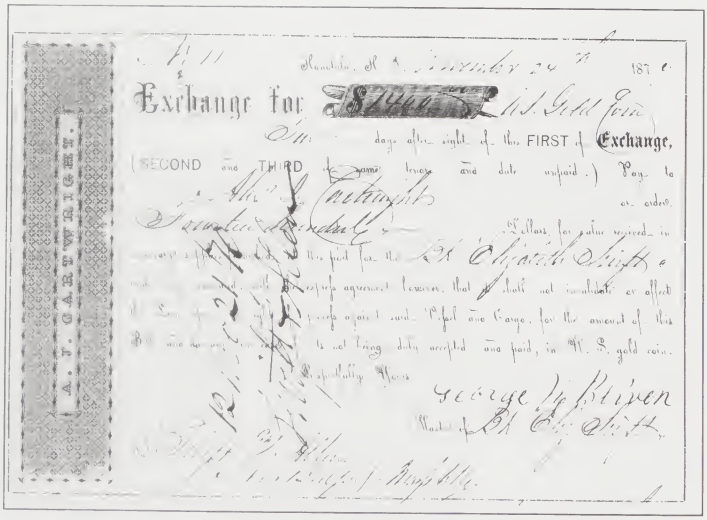


Figure 1. The First of Exchange for $1,400 payable in gold coin to A. J. Cartwright issued November 24, 1870 in Honolulu. Cartwright endorsed the bill on the reverse, as shown in **Figure 2** on the following page.

As often in the case of financial documents of this period, there is, with apologies to Paul Harvey, the rest of the story. Alexander Cartwright was, in 1938, the 18th person to be inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

Alexander Joy Cartwright, Jr. was born in 1820. In the early 1840's he was a teller in the Union Bank. His superior there was Daniel Ebbets, the father of Charles Hercules Ebbets who became the owner of the Brooklyn Trolleydodgers and laid out Ebbets Field. By 1845 Cartwright and his brother had established a bookstore and stationer's shop on Wall Street.

There were several versions of "base ball" at this time including a "German" game and a "Massachusetts" game. In 1845 Cartwright and a group of his friends organized the Knickerbocker Base Ball Club, apparently named after the Knickerbocker Engine Company, a fire department. The New York National Basketball Association team was later named after the baseball club. The Knickerbockers originally played in the Murray Hill area of Manhattan, then moved to the Elysian Fields, a popular holiday destination, in Hoboken, New Jersey. Elysian Fields was owned by Colonel John Stevens, the engineer who built the first railroad locomotive and was founder of the Camden and Amboy Railroad.

Cartwright set out the rules for the "New York" game. These rules formed the foundation for the modern-day sport and the reason he is in the Baseball Hall of Fame. While popular legend has it that Abner Doubleday "invented" the game, it is Alexander Cartwright who is actually "The Man Who Invented Baseball."

Among these rules were:

"Soaking," where the batter would be out if the fielder hit him with the baseball, was eliminated. The ball had to reach the base ahead of the batter for an out.

There would be nine men to a side. (Cartwright "invented" the position of shortstop.)

Bases would be 90 feet apart.

Teams were to exchange sides after three outs were made.

Cartwright became restless and by 1848 he had made his way to the California gold fields, spreading the gospel of baseball as he traveled west. He even played the game in such remove outposts as St. Louis and Carlin, Nevada. By 1849 he reached Hawaii, where he eventually became a wealthy merchant involved in ship chandlering, banking, insurance and real estate. He founded the Honolulu library, a Masonic lodge, the Honolulu streetcar and bus company and the Honolulu Fire Department (the reason for the fireman's hat in the illustration on the cover.) Except for a short time around 1850 he remained in Hawaii.

He never lost interest in baseball and had pleasant memories of his days in New York. Sixteen years after his arrival in Hawaii he wrote back to a former captain of the Knickerbockers:

"Dear old Knickerbockers, I hope the club is still kept up, and that I shall some day meet again with them on the pleasant fields of Hoboken. I have in my possession the original ball with which we used to play on Murray Hill. Many is the pleasant chase I have had after it on Mountain and Prairie, and many and equally pleasant one on the sunny plains of "Hawaii Nei." Sometimes I have thought of sending it home to be played for by the Clubs, but I cannot bear to part with it, so linked in is it with cherished home memories."

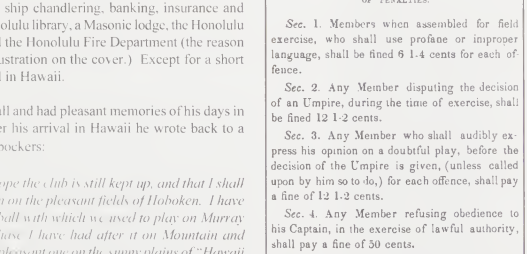
Postscript:

In a conversation with Mrs. Ann Cartwright, whose late husband was Alexander Cartwright's great-grandson, she offered the following information:

She currently owns the fireman's helmet Cartwright is wearing in the picture on the cover.

The baseball Cartwright was so fond of is owned by a New Jersey baseball memorabilia collector. It is among several thousand baseball items to be auctioned this coming July by Sotheby's, the noted New York auction house. The auction will take place during the week of the annual induction of new members to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

The baseball field associated with the Hall of Fame is Doubleday Field, named after Abner Doubleday. Mrs. Cartwright tried to convince Hall of Fame officials to change to the name to "anything but Doubleday field" because, she said, Doubleday "didn't have a damn thing to do" with the invention of baseball. Her request was denied.



7

Article V

OF PENALTIES.

Sec. 1. Members when assembled for field exercise, who shall use profane or improper language, shall be fined 6 1-4 cents for each offence.

Sec. 2. Any Member disputing the decision of an Umpire, during the time of exercise, shall be fined 12 1-2 cents.

Sec. 3. Any Member who shall audibly express his opinion on a doubtful play, before the decision of the Umpire is given, (unless called upon by him so to do,) for each offence, shall pay a fine of 12 1-2 cents.

Sec. 4. Any Member refusing obedience to his Captain, in the exercise of lawful authority, shall pay a fine of 50 cents.

Sec. 5. All penalties incurred by violation of any of the four preceding sections, must be paid to the Umpire before leaving the field; and any Member refusing to pay such fines, shall be suspended from field exercise until such fines are paid.

Figure 3. A page from the Knickerbocker Constitution of 1848, from Charles Alexander's book, *Our Game.*

References:

Alexander, Charles. *Our Game: An American Baseball History.* Henry Holt & Co., 1991
Mahler, Michael. *United States Civil War Revenue Stamp Taxes.* Castenholz & Sons, 1988
Peterson, Harold. *The Man Who Invented Baseball.* Charles Scribner's Sons, 1973
Ward, Geoffrey C. and Burns, Ken. *Baseball: An Illustrated History.* Alfred A. Knopf, 1994
Alexander Cartwright Web Site (*http://www.mrbaseball.com/1000.htm*)
National Baseball Hall of Fame Web Site (*http://www.baseballhalloffame.org*)

Check Collecting the World

by Bob Spence

In some years past, stamp collecting in the area of "Postal History", in which postage stamps are collected, studied and displayed "On Cover", generated a new and broad interest in "the whole story of stamps", including how and why they were used and the travels and travails of the cover with stamps from sender to recipient.

Similarly, the recent increase in collecting of checks and check-related documents from the rest of the world has really opened up another fascinating and novel area of interest in "the whole story" of these unusual items, often with odd types of revenue stamps not found on United States checks.

Checks are "Windows on History", as they are actual mementos of a moment in times past. But more than that, world checks offer collectors a fascinating glimpse into the fiscal history of far distant places and countries often familiar only on maps.

Checks from the rest of the world are now increasingly collected by revenue stamp collectors for the greater number of types of stamps usually found on them. In the United States, only three types may be encountered by check and revenue stamp collectors. Collectors of world revenue stamps and checks have more than two dozen types of world revenue stamps, many with more than one variety, to be noted on checks and check related items. Revenue stamp collectors often collect die letter varieties just as coin collectors collect coins with different mint marks.

Beginning United States world cheque and revenue stamp collectors have found some interesting differences. The first one is the spellings and use of the word "check". In the United States a "check" is a specific financial document The term is also used generically by check collectors and dealers to refer to, or include, the check-related, collectible items of drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes, receipts and warrants. In Great Britain, in the rest of the world and also, in the United States on Travellers Cheques, the spelling "cheque" is used. (When in Rome, do as the Romans do!)

United States collectors of checks will find that British and world cheques are becoming more available as overseas contacts between collectors, societies and dealers increase. Collectors and dealers of cheques and revenue (also called "duty") stamps may avoid misunderstandings, enhance the pleasures of collecting and reduce dealer advertising costs, by the common use of a simple reference list of selected terms and definitions covering cheques, check collecting and revenue and duty stamps. The following material has been used and provides handy terms, which keep collecting enjoyable by eliminating repeatable details often confusing in labels, descriptions and communications.

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS FOR REVENUE STAMPS
USED ON UNITED STATES AND WORLD CHEQUES

Design:	A planned arrangement or pattern including: parts, lines, writings, forms or colors.
Ink:	The colored fluids or dyes used for the designcreated by printing or striking.
Dye:	Color of ink in a design.
Imprint:	The design made by pressing a raised or incused, inked pattern on a surface
Stamp:	A piece of paper bearing a design to show that a fee, as for postage, revenue or duty, or a tax, has been paid.
Medallion:	A combination of design elements resembling a medal.
To emboss:	To raise a design in relief.
To print:	To leave an imprinted design on a surface, usually with a printing press or machine.
To strike:	To leave a design made by pressing a raised or incused, inked pattern, that is hand-held, or contained in a machine, at variable locations on a surface.

Check collectors know that revenue and duty stamps are a prominent feature on checks and a popular area of collector interest. The U.S. revenue stamps on checks, Scott Types R, RM and RN, adhesives, colorless embossed and imprinted types, are of a kind that already were in use in Great Britain. There, the one penny Receipt duty stamp appeared in 1784 and continued at that rate until doubled in 1920. It was finally abolished in 1971. Experience showed that stamp duties provided "an efficacious and convenient method of raising revenue".

Units of the British Colonial Empire generally followed the stamp duty practices of Great Britain where the stamp duty is usually denoted by embossed, dyed stamps imprinted on appropriate documents by the Office of Controller of Stamps. For convenience, however, payment of some small duties has from time to time been allowed in the form of adhesive stamps - to be cancelled by a signature across the stamp.

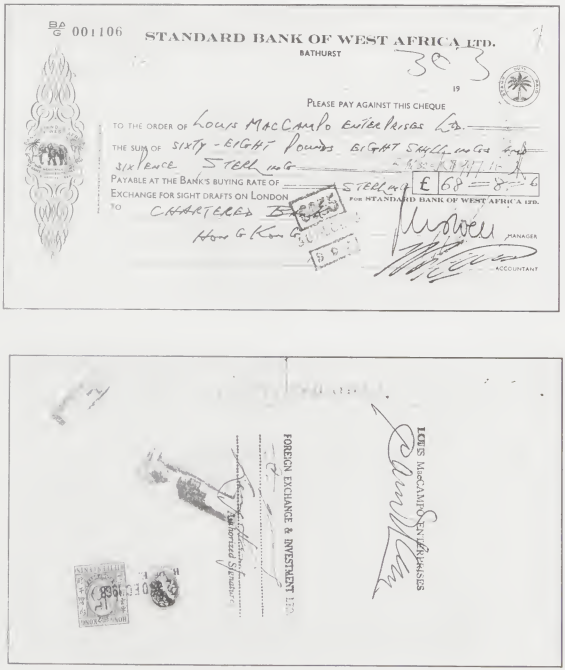


Figure 1. A 1968 draft of The Standard Bank of West Africa, Ltd., Bathurst, The Gambia, drawn on The Chartered Bank, Hong Kong. A printed medallion revenue stamp of The Gambia is at the upper right corner of the face. Two Hong Kong adhesive revenue stamps are on the back. The initials "B of E" are for the Bank of England which distributed duty stamps for the British Crown Colony of Hong Kong. It is interesting to note the many names and terms which have become obsolete on this draft: The Standard Bank of West Africa, Ltd.; the Chartered Bank; British Gambia and British Crown Colony of Hong Kong; British sterling coinage and British Hong Kong coinage - all gone since this draft was drawn.

Check collectors will notice that economic and political conditions and changes have often required prompt and temporary methods of providing for payment of stamp duties. Some resulting types of duty stamps are indicated in the following listing.

TYPES OF REVENUE OR DUTY STAMPS ON UNITED STATES AND WORLD CHEQUES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

No.	Label Code	Type
1	A	An adhesive stamp for revenue, duty, etc.
2	AB	An adhesive revenue stamp, diagonally bisected. One part is attached to the cheque and the other to the stub or counterfoil as a receipt for fee paid.
3	AH	An adhesive revenue stamp, horizontally separated. One part is attached to the cheque and the other to the stub or counterfoil as a receipt for fee paid.
4	P	A revenue stamp imprinted on a cheque or related document.
5	C	A revenue stamp consisting of an inscribed clause.
6	CE	A revenue stamp consisting of a clause: "Exempt from Stamp Duty".
7	D	A revenue stamp with design of a medallion.
8	E	A colorless embossed stamp.
9	EC	An embossed stamp with color.
10	ES	A revenue stamp consisting of two parts, one embossed and one hand struck.
11	S	A revenue stamp design that is hand struck.
12	M	A revenue stamp design that is machine struck.

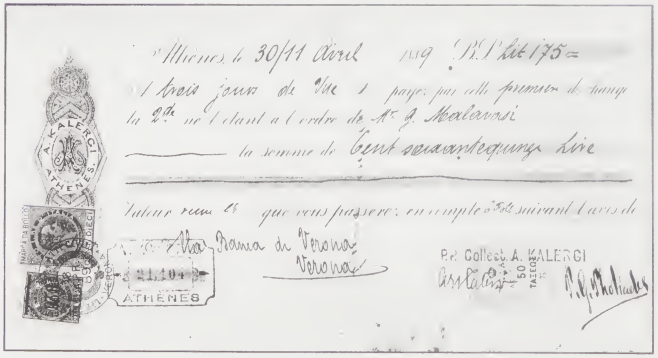


Figure 2. An 1889 First of Exchange of A. Kalergi, Athens, Greece for 175 Italian lire drawn on the Bank of Verona, Italy. A 50 lepta revenue stamp of the Kingdom of Greece is on the face of the bill with two Kingdom of Italy revenue stamps, one with a surcharge altering the denomination.

Exchange for £29,922 - 15 - 10
21st March, 1969
At 120 days Sight Pay This First of Exchange
(Second being unpaid) to the order of The Chartered Bank the sum of
Sterling Pounds twenty nine thousand three hundred and twenty two
and shillings fifteen and pence one only.
, on account of
Drawn under Midland Bank Ltd. Osaka, Japan. Irrevocable
Dated 21st March, 1969.
To The Chartered Bank, London.
For PUA DIN KOK TIMBER COMPANY
MALAYSIA

Figure 3. A 1969 First of Exchange Bill of Pua Din Kok Timber Co. drawn on the Chartered Bank of London, to the account of Messrs. C. Itoh & Co. Ltd., Osaka, Japan. It was accepted by the Midland Bank, Ltd., of London for the Chartered Bank. In addition to a two pence English adhesive revenue stamp overprinted with "Chartered Bank" on the face of the bill, there are twelve Malaysia adhesive postage revenue stamps on the back, for a total of 106 Malaysian dollars.

It should be pointed out that cheques, drafts and bills of exchange must, at least be drawn and better still, have completed all required steps to make the payment designated in order to perform the purpose for which they were intended. An unused, or blank, cheque is really an item of financial stationery. Even so, these are sought by collectors as a pristine example of the security printer's art and for original, unmarked features on them.

Collectors of world cheques (including drafts and bills of exchange) are sometimes horrified at the condition of these items after surviving countless handling, examinations, added writings and stampings, frequent insertions and withdrawals from envelopes while serving as the top-most cover sheet stapled to a batch of supporting documents, bills of lading, test details, copies of bank advice letters, etc., often spindled and sometimes torn off for storage. This is normal wear and tear for these documents. While some survive in near pristine condition, used specimens often bear some evidence of marks from handling, travel and storage.

Cheques are becoming good modern day collectibles, nearly impossible to counterfeit and usually uneconomic to attempt to do so. These relatively small, easy-to-handle documents do not have the weight or the hazards of ownership of gold and silver coins and of U.S. paper money. They can be easually available to their owner for study and enjoyment

Some representative cheques of the world with various types of revenue and duty stamps are shown here. With a little study, a collector can follow the trail of the journey of the cheque from the place where it was drawn, through holders in due course, indorsements and transfers, to the ultimate designated payment at the payor bank.

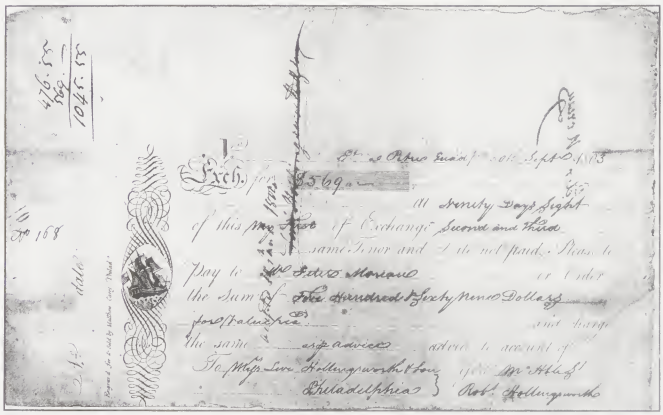


Figure 4. An 1803 First of Exchange bill drawn by Robert Hollingsworth, Point a Pitré, Guadeloupe, on Messrs. Levi Hollingsworth & Son, Philadelphia, for $569.00. The bill was accepted on January 7, 1804 by Levi Hollingsworth & Son and payment made to Mr. Peter Moreau, as shown by an endorsement on the back. This bill was issued in three parts for Matthew Carey of Philadelphia, a prominent printer and publisher

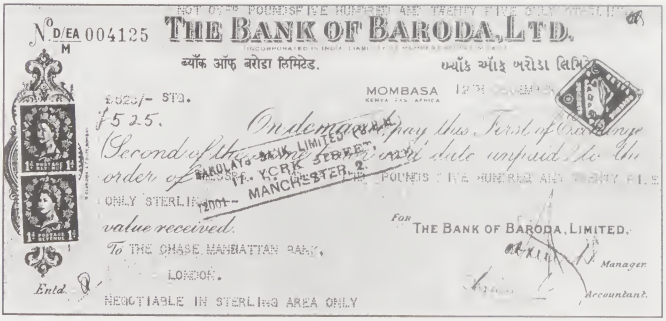
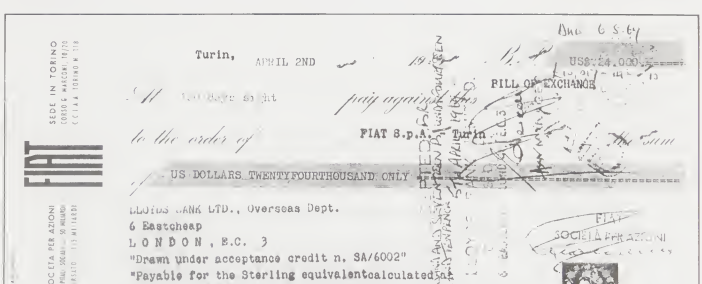


Figure 5. A 1955 First of Exchange drawn on the Mombasa, Kenya Branch of the Bank of Baroda (which is incorporated in India) on the Chase Manhattan Bank, London, to the order of Messr. A. Ydlibi, Ltd., for 525 pounds sterling. This bill is designated payable in sterling only. A 30 cent blue printed Kenya medallion revenue stamp and two English one penny adhesive postage/revenue stamps are on the face.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Turin, APRIL 2ND
US$:24.000
BILL OF EXCHANGE
to the order of
FIAT S.p.A. Turin
US DOLLARS TWENTYFOURTHOUSAND ONLY
LLOYDS BANK LTD., Overseas Dept.
6 Eastcheap
L O N D O N , E.C. 3
"Drawn under acceptance credit n. SA/6002"
"Payable for the Sterling equivalentcalculated at
the rate of being the middlemarket TT
rate in London ruling at the time ofAcceptance by Lloyds Bank
FIAT
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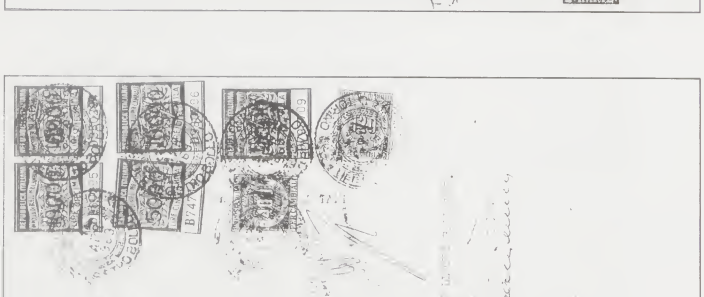


Figure 6. A First of Exchange of the prominent Italian automobile manufacturer, Fiat, in Turin, Italy, on Lloyds Bank, Ltd., in London for 24,000 U.S. dollars, and drawn under an acceptance credit of Lloyds Bank. The designated "value in account" of the face amount at time of acceptance is given at "ten thousand and seventeen pounds and fourteen shillings and ten pence" in English pounds sterling. An English revenue stamp for two pence duty is on the face. Seven Italian revenue stamps are on the back, each mini-stapled to the bill, possibly as security against reuse.

Happy Collecting!!

Cumulative Index - Volumes 1 - 48

Article	Author	Volume	Page
A.S.C.C.			
A Fresh Beginning	Spence	1	1
A.S.C.C. Bylaws		40	25
Bob Hohertz becomes TCC Editor		29	22
Directory of Members - 1988		7	17
Directory of Members - 1992		22	32
Directory of Members - 1993		28	22
Directory of Members - 1994		32	13
Directory of Members - 1995		36	13
Directory of Members - 1997		44	13
Life Membership Awarded to Ed Lipson		38	23
Member Survey Cox		42	20
Treasurer's Report - 1987		4	21
Treasurer's Report - 1988		8	2
Treasurer's Report - 1989		12	18
Treasurer's Report - 1990		17	21
Treasurer's Report - 1991		20	13
Treasurer's Report - 1994		32	24
Treasurer's Report - 1998		45	24
ADHESIVE STAMPS ON CHECKS			
Adhesive Revenue Stamps Used on Checks	Spence	2	10
Checks and Draft Bearing 2c Bank Check Orange 1st Printing	Mahler	33	4
Stamps on Checks Column	Einstein	4	14
ALABAMA			
Central Bank of Alabama		15	24
Huntsville; 1st NB	Cochran	15	30
ALASKA			
Alaska Permanent Fund Checks	Poleske	21	6
Always Look Twice	Poleske	3	7
An Alaska Check - and History	Castenholz	35	17
Bank of Seward	Poleske	28	18
Take a Third Look	Poleske	7	29
The Alaska Commercial Company	Kemp	43	4
You Bought WHAT?	Aron	37	12
ALTERED CHECKS			
A Kinder Gentler Day at The Bank	Hornbacher	37	25
From the Vaults	Zier	21	4
AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO.			
Intaglio Printed Checks	Ellis	39	3
AMERICAN CHECKS			
American Mini Checks	Spence	13	3
AMERICAN PHOTOTYPE CO.			
American Phototype Co. (Part 3)	Lipson	42	12
The Heyday of American Phototype (Part 1)	Lipson	38	14
The Heyday of American Phototype (Part 2)	Lipson	39	13
ARKANSAS			
All or Nothing At All	Burnham	23	14
Bank of Antoine	Burnham	25	15
AUSTRALIA			
Australian Fauna Collecton Cheques	Vort-Ronald	21	9
Australian Gift Cheques	Vort-Ronald	20	8
Bicentenary Checks	Vort-Ronald	23	22
Primary Producers Bank of Australia, Limited	Vort-Ronald	44	4
Proposed South Australian Privacy Bill	Spence	21	7
The Australian Banking and Currency Museum	Boraker	19	4
Westpac Banking Corp.		22	7
AUTOGRAPHS			
A Look at Collecting First Lady Checks	Ostromecki	18	4
Autograph Checks	Chiles	4	7
Autographs on Checks	Mock	11	8
Autographs on Checks		15	26
Autographs on Checks	Mock	16	24
Autographs on Checks	Mock	17	17
Autographs on Checks	Mock	24	22
Autographs on Checks	Mock	25	16
Autographs on Checks	Mock	27	12
Autographs, A Bonus for Check Collectors	Spence	9	3

Article	Author	Volume	Page
AUTOGRAPHS (continued)			
Burr, Aaron		6	12
Celebrity Checks (Collins, Joan)	Campbell	48	23
Celebrity Checks (Day, Doris)	Campbell	47	23
Celebrity Checks (Ford, Glenn)	Campbell	45	23
Celebrity Checks (Seymour, Jane)	Campbell	46	23
Check to Warren Harding from Alice Longworth	Zier	26	16
Grant, U S		41	12
Hoover, J. Edgar	Hughes	12	15
More Autograph Checks	Mock	12	11
More Autographs on Checks	Mock	10	14
More Autographs on Checks	Mock	13	15
More Interesting Checks		15	22
One is Real and One Isn t	Hacker	37	10
Some Unsuccessful Candidates for President	Ekeblad	39	14
Stephens, Alexander H	Kemp	48	13
The Autographs Page	Mock	21	13
Who was LaFayette Sabine Foster	Poleske	44	12
BILLS OF EXCHANGE			
An Interesting Bill of Exchange (U.S. Navy)	Buford	44	21
Another Interesting B/E (reply to article in TCC issue 45)	Smith	47	8
Another Interesting Bill of Exchange (Confederate POW)	Buford	45	9
Are there higher numbers than Fourth of Exchange?		6	13
Armchair Travels With Bills of Exchange	Spence	30	4
Bills of Exchange (Part 1)	Zier	45	4
Bills of Exchange (Part 2)	Zier	46	4
Some Foreign Bills of Exchange	Zier	24	4
Some Interesting Bills of Exchange - 1	Lipson	13	5
Some Interesting Bills of Exchange - 2	Lipson	14	11
Some Interesting Bills of Exchange - 3	Lipson	15	23
Unusual Incoming Bills of Exchange, Origin: Hawaii	Mahler	15	3
BRAZIL			
Banking System of Brazil	DeMello	6	7
News from Brazil	Spence	4	2
BRITISH CHECKS			
A Short History of an English Banking Firm	Poleske	35	18
Crossed Checks	Poleske	12	10
London City & Midland Bank (cp)		16	20
Sherlock Holmes and Cheques	Poleske	20	4
Treasurer's Office Cheques from the County of Oxford	Waycheson	24	8
CALIFORNIA			
Agent's Checks	Weaver	32	4
An 1848 Wire Transfer	Leifer	48	10
Bank of Santa Maria		26	17
Pre-Prange County Paper Collectibles	Brase	34	17
San Francisco Draft Payable in Oregon		7	27
Things Ain't Like They Used To Be	Weaver	4	13
CANADA			
A Market Niche (Canadian Tobacco companies)	Thorburn	47	11
CHECK TAXES			
Exemption from the Civil War Check Tax	Kemp/Mahler	6	15
Exemption from the Civil War Check Tax (reply)	Kemp/Mahler	7	25
Exemptions from the 1932 Check Tax	Patetta	8	13
More on the Third Usage of Check Tax (1932)	Spence	6	17
The Third Usage of Check Taxes (1932)	Einstein	5	7
CHECKS UNDER $1			
Check for 1c		6	14
Montgomery Ward check for 15 cents		39	22
Montgomery Ward checks under $1 - reply		40	22
CINDERELLAS			
Bank of Prosperity - Christmas & New Years Greeting (cp)		11	21
Holiday Greetings - checks with a Christmas Theme		32	27
COCA-COLA CHECKS			
Earlier Coca-Cola Check than 7/6/07? (CCCH)		11	20
Earlier Date than 2/8/1907? (CCCH)		14	20
Early Checks - Waycross, GA (cp)		23	16
Enjoy Coca-Cola Checks	Vort-Ronald	22	5
COLORADO			
Bank of Ridgway	Boraker	8	17
Boulder Bank, George C. Corning	Boraker	6	19

Article	Author	Volume	Page
COLORADO (continued)			
Burns, James F	Boraker	12	19
Emerson & Buckingham, Bankers, Longmont, CO	Boraker	17	6
Farmers and Traders, Bank, Akron	Boraker	18	18
First National Bank, Alamosa	Boraker	14	17
Following an Old Custon (Cripple Creek)	Boraker	9	14
Merchants and Miners Bank, Carbonateville	Boraker	10	15
No Gold in Goldfield	Ebright	42	18
Ouray	Boraker	36	11
Rifle; An Impressive Vignette (1st NB)		1	7
Robbery, First National Bank, Lamar	Boraker	5	17
Rubber Stamp Endorsement - Historical Find (Leadville)	Boraker	19	7
South Pueblo, Colorado	Boraker	34	11
Timpas State Bank	Boraker	43	14
Wiley, Colorado - Taylor County Rural Electric Co-op (cp)		16	21
CONNECTICUT			
Barnum, P. T., Opens Checking Account	Gebhardt	10	6
Naugatuck; An Unusual Security Device		41	21
DATES			
December 25th, 1884	Boraker	20	12
How Can This Be (unusual sequence of dates)	Boraker	28	22
No Such Dates	Zier	20	6
Undated Checks	Poleske	33	14
DESIGNATED CHECKS			
Comments on Article in Issue 14		15	20
Designated Checks	Weaver	14	3
Designated Checks	Weaver	15	11
Designated Checks	Weaver	16	7
Designated Checks	Weaver	17	7
The Good Old Days	Weaver	20	10
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA			
Older Sight Draft? (reply)		6	13
DRAFTS			
Best classification for these documents?		29	8
Best classification for these documents? - reply		30	18
Older Sight Drafts?		5	11
When is a Check a Draft?	McDonald	29	4
FLORIDA			
Collecting Florida Checks a Real Challenge	Spence	4	3
Key West Draft		7	27
More on Florida Checks	Mahler	11	14
Where is St. Helena?		5	11
FOREIGN CHECKS AND DRAFTS			
An Armchair Adventure	Spence	41	14
An Armchair Adventure - reply		42	25
Checks of the World	Spence	6	3
Unusual Checks for Unusual Times	Spence	27	7
GAST, AUGUST & CO.			
A Marketing Niche	Hohertz	40	4
GEORGIA			
1862 Promissory Note	Spence	43	15
GOVERNMENT CHECKS			
An Unusual Post Office Check	Biemer	3	6
Bank of U.S. check to James Monroe (cp)		26	17
Check for 6c (cp)		2	8
Henry Dearborn Endorsement on U.S. Bank Branch Check	Wilson	46	19
Post Office Draft Question		6	14
Time Limit U.S. Government Checks	Spence	1	2
U. S. Government Checks	Spence	11	3
United States Railroad Administration	Kanowsky	23	12
GUIDE TO CHECK COLLECTING			
Part 1	Spence	19	17
Part 2	Spence	20	20
Part 3	Spence	21	20
Part 4	Spence	22	14
Part 5	Spence	23	17
Part 6	Spence	24	9
Part 7	Spence	25	24
Part 8	Spence	26	4

Article	Author	Volume	Page
IDAHO			
All the World's a Stage (Northwestern Stage Company)	Lipson	33	4
ILLINOIS			
Bank of Benton		1	9
Banking & Exchange Office of A.J. Mattson, Prophetstown		36	26
Barb City Bank, DeKalb	Hensley	32	12
Checks of the Downer & Bemis Brewing Company	Kanowsky	32	21
Prophetstown (Banking & Exchange Office of A.J. Mattson)		36	26
Some Before and Some After (Downer & Bemis Checks)	Spence	33	15
The Wealthiest Man in Schuyler, County, Illinois	Drost	12	17
INDIANA			
Polar Ice & Fuel Co. Check		29	18
IOWA			
Davenport, The First First National Bank	Poleske	24	5
Lucas, The Joy of Research - Part I (Farmers & Miners Bank	Poleske	4	17
KANSAS			
Now You Have It, Now You Don't! (J.R. Watkins & Co.)	Burnham	18	22
One Good Turn Deserves Another	Spence	19	5
KENTUCKY			
A Railroad Check of Some Interest (Louisville & Nashville)	Leifer	35	19
Bank of Fairfield, H.M. McKenna, Distiller		15	24
LITERATURE			
Check Books (books and pamphlets on checks)	Poleske	47	17
LOUISIANA			
Antoine's Soubie of New Orleans	Calhoun	40	9
Edward A. Burke, Carpetbagger, Man of Mystery	Calhoun	18	16
MAINE			
Machias Bank		19	8
When Lime was King (Lime Rock NB, Rockland)	Jenkins	33	18
MANUSCRIPT CHECKS			
		16	20
Manuscript or Holographic Checks	Lipson	30	11
May I Borrow Your Pen?	Spence	28	14
MARYLAND			
Baltimore, Josiah Lee Exchange, also Executive Warrant		22	8
Baltimore, Bank of		21	10
Baltimore, NB of E. Kuhn and Sons		39	22
Baltimore, Josiah Lee Exchange		6	11
MASSACHUSETTS			
National Mount Wollaston Bank (Quincy)	Boraker	22	4
National Shawmut Bank - $1,000,000 check (cp)		30	8
MEXICO			
An RN-X7 Issued in Mexico	Leifer	41	18
Odyssey of a Wells Fargo Check	Calhoun	30	17
Odyssey of a Wells Fargo Check - reply		31	20
MICHIGAN			
Who in the Sam Hill Was Sam Hill	Cox	25	14
MISCELLANEOUS			
It Happened on Friday the 13th!	Boraker	40	20
Actuary related checks	Hohertz	32	28
All for $1.70 (RR ticket refund)	Ivester	46	14
All to the Good	Boraker	48	18
An Auctioneers Check	Kemp	46	20
Anatomy of a Check	Pasiawsky	9	16
Banking, The "Confidence" Game	Naven	16	3
Basic Education - How to Write a Check	Biemer	39	23
Book Reviews	Kemp	5	19
Chase-Manhattan Bank - Military Payment Certificates (cp)		5	21
Check Collecting in 2045 - guest editorial		35	22
Check Collecting in 2045 - guest editorial (reply)		36	27
Check Collecting, History in your Hands	Spence	7	3
Check for over $1,000,000		15	25
Checks - in the Eyes of the Beholder	Spence	29	16
Checks and Related Materials	Boone	34	15
Checks Bearing the Ampersand	Boraker	10	22
Checks for the Afterlife	Poleske	45	17

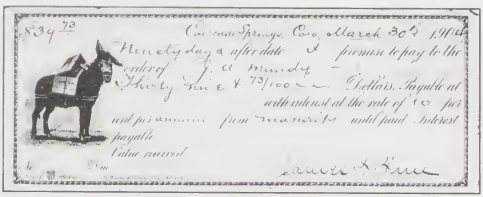
Article	Author	Volume	Page
MISCELLANEOUS (continued)			
Checks Payable to Named Steamboats	Calhoun	5	5
Chextra Certificates	Boraker	41	13
Collecting Checks with a Logo Based on the Bank Name	Biemer	34	12
Cotton Picking Checks	Stump	1	8
Counter and Modern Checks. History in your Hands	Paslawsky	8	3
Early Counter Checks		9	13
Flea Market Purchase Leads to Detective Work	Angus	17	3
Guarantees of Deposits in State Banks	Boraker	15	29
Happy New Year	Ekeblad	40	24
Logos and Mottoes on Bank Checks and Drafts	Kazanjian	35	10
Looking for a Collection Theme	Poleske	11	15
Miscellaneous Fiscals, The Cinderellas of Check Collecting		1	5
Names on Checks	Boraker	4	19
Namesake Checks		16	21
Non-Check Check	Poleske	31	18
Numismatic Ephemera (documents with coin vignettes)	Hornbacher	45	18
Offering Checks Issued by Evangelists	Boraker	29	10
On Exchanging Checks Between Collectors	Spence	2	9
Personal Banking	Sowards	24	7
Postcard Check		48	17
Pre-magnetic Encoding	Ekeblad	5	8
Pre-printed fold on 1901 check		11	21
Protectu Check		6	14
Refund/Rebate Checks	Gebhardt	3	8
Rolling Stones (lithographic stones)	Burnham	25	18
Some Thoughts on Preservation	O'Hare	18	13
Stone Age (lithographic stones)	Burnham	23	4
The Check in Insurance Advertising	Smith	35	4
The Check is the Mail	Reynard	34	21
Today's Check Market	Spence	5	3
Treasury Check for 10c		38	21
Try Bank Robberies for Collection Theme	Poleske	11	15
Uncashed Checks	Brase	35	13
What's Different About Check Collecting?	Spence	2	5
Whither Check Collecting (Guest Editorial)	Anonymous	32	25
Why "X" - checks signed with an "X"	Poleske	37	22
Why Bother? (Checks for less than $1)	Biemer	30	9
Why I Began Collecting Checks	Biemer	7	28
MISSISSIPPI			
From Out of the Past	Stump	3	4
MISSOURI			
A Use for Missouri Defence Bonds	Horstman	48	16
Bank of St Louis - check protection		7	25
Boatman's Bank (RN-D8)	Hohertz	34	26
Boatmen's Bank		29	20
On the Streets of Saint Louis	Horstman	47	13
Varieties of a Steamboat Vignette, Boatmen's Bank Checks	Calhoun	28	12
MONTANA			
Discharged Convict Received $5 from Montana Terr. Governor	Boraker	23	5
J. H. Sherburne, Indian Trader	Boraker	32	11
L. H. Hershfield	Fine	48	6
NEBRASKA			
"There is no such thing as a bad boy" (Boy's Town)	Boraker	31	19
Bladen, Bank of	Boraker	22	17
Broken Bow; A Horse Note		41	21
NEVADA			
Carson Valley Bank (CCCH)		8	20
Carson Valley Bank - reply		9	13
Carson Valley Bank - reply		10	16
Comstock Lode: Check of the Union Mill & Mining Co	Mahler	45	10
Gould & Curry Silver Mine Checks (cp)		20	18
Gould & Curry Silver Mine Receipt (cp)		19	8
Manhattan Silver Mining Co. "Bearer Checks"	McDonald	36	4
NEW HAMPSHIRE			
Keene, NB, Keene Syndicate (cp)		31	20
NEW JERSEY			
Cachet Commemorates Bank Founding (Merchantville NB)	Boraker	12	14
Where is Cape Island?		5	11
Where is Cape Island?		6	13
NEW MEXICO			
2nd NB, Santa Fe; L.G. Murphy, Ft. Stanton		35	26

Article	Author	Volume	Page
NEW YORK			
Broadway Bank - Election Expense Check		39	21
Broadway Bank - Election Expense Check - reply		40	23
Dr. Amos O. Squire (Head Physician, Sing Sing Prison)	Boone	47	15
Fourth NB, New York - unusual security device		21	11
Frances Spinner and the Indian on Mohawk Valley Bank Check	Stoner	13	13
Just One Vote - check made out to Samuel Tilden	Kazanjian	25	19
Mechanics Bank		1	9
On the Streets of New York	Boone	46	17
Where is Morrisania?		8	16
Where is Morrisania?		10	16
NORTH CAROLINA			
Burlington check with multiple banks		24	20
Gibsonville (High School Bank)	Roughton	44	26
The Mecklenburg Bills - a New interpretation	Lipson	31	4
OHIO			
A Canton, Ohio Pay Check	Sheehan	16	19
A Canton, Ohio Pay Check	Sheehan	19	9
Marion County Bank - Warren G. Harding		4	23
OKLAHOMA			
101 Ranch - A Dream, A Reality, A Legend	Boraker	35	14
Ardmore NB		43	16
Choctaw National Bank (Caddo)	Boraker	24	21
J. H. Sherburne, Indian Trader	Boraker	32	11
OREGON			
Douglas County, Roseburg, OR	Battles	6	21
From Out of the Past (Steamboat City)	Stump	5	20
PENNSYLVANIA			
Check Collecting, Relatively Speaking	Hoober	4	15
Just an Old Pile of Checks (Conneaut Lake)	Biemer	13	18
Meadville (Bank of Crawford County)	Biemer	12	13
North Western Bank of Pennsylvania	Biemer	5	12
Orizaba Iron Works Draft		2	7
Patton (1 st NB)		2	7
Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts		6	12
Stephen Girard - Bill of Exchange		21	11
Steven Girard - 3rd Bill of Exchange		15	25
Treasurer of Berks County, Poor House		30	19
POSTAL NOTES AND MONEY ORDERS			
Postal Note First Day Issue	Sowards	8	6
Postal Note First Day Issue	Noll	12	9
U. S. Postal Money Order of 1919	Thompson	1	8
PRE-CIVIL WAR CHECKS			
Early American Checks	O'Hare	19	13
Early Classics of Check Collecting	Spence	3	3
Early Vignetted Checks	Spence	10	3
PRE-CIVIL WAR FISCAL PAPER			
How Were Early Checks Issued?		4	6
How Were Early Checks Issued?		5	10
Older Promissory Notes - reply		5	9
Older Promissory Notes?		4	6
QUESTIONS			
A Unique Portrait (Lincoln)	Nanni	33	21
Open Number Overprints - what are they?		30	20
Open Number Overprints - what are they? - reply		31	20
RATION CHECKS			
Ration Banking	Roughton	43	10
Ration Check		24	20
Ration Check Examples	Hohertz	44	24
RECEIPTS			
A Very Interesting Receipt	Biemer	9	19
Some Interesting Receipts	Biemer	8	15
What Is It? (passbook receipt - reply)	Morrisey	37	8
What Is it? (passbook receipt)		36	12
RESEARCH			
The Joy of Research - Part 2	Poleske	5	6

Article	Author	Volume	Page
REVENUE STAMPED PAPER			
A Close Look At the Omaha NB draft from Sturgis, SD	Castenholz	40	11
A Find in the Marketplace (RN-D8, Nokomis, Ills.)		45	26
American Bank Note Models	Lipson	23	9
An Alaska Check - and History	Castenholz	35	17
An Easy-To-Miss Imprinted Revenue Stamped Paper	DeVincent	13	19
An RN-X7 Issued in Mexico	Leifer	41	18
ASCC Check Survey	Lipson	15	32
ASCC Check Survey	Lipson	16	13
ASCC Check Survey	Lipson	17	13
ASCC Check Survey	Lipson	18	8
ASCC Check Survey	Lipson	19	10
ASCC Check Survey	Lipson	20	14
ASCC Check Survey	Lipson	21	14
ASCC Check Survey	Lipson	22	20
ASCC Check Survey	Lipson	23	23
ASCC Check Survey	Lipson	24	16
ASCC Check Survey	Lipson	25	20
Diagonal RN-X7 on Quincy, IL draft		10	10
First NB, Waxahache - olive RN-X6		34	22
First NB, Waxahache - RN-X7 double impression		35	20
Inverted and Back-Side Imprints on RN's	Einstein	9	22
Lanman & Kemp Checks with Imprinted Revenues	Hohertz	36	21
Receipts in the Eye of a Check Collector	Lipson	25	4
RN Specimen Checks	O'Hare	27	4
Second Look - RN-I1		24	20
Some Rarities Among Checks with Imprinted Revenue Stamps	Lipson	7	8
Some Rarities Among Checks with Imprinted Revenue Stamps	Lipson	8	7
Some RN Facsimilies on Checks	Lipson	11	9
Some RN Facsimilies on Checks	Lipson	12	3
Something Old, Something Blue - The Blue "K"	Lipson	37	4
Sorry, Virginia, There Are No Yellow Imprints	Castenholz	31	15
State NB, New Orleans (Find in the Marketplace)		39	20
The "Graphic Co. New York" Imprint	Lipson	28	4
The Elusive O Type	Castenholz	38	4
The Great Crosby Opera House Lottery	Castenholz	41	4
They All Look Alike (Lanman & Kemp checks with RN's	Hohertz	36	21
Tom Thumb checks		32	24
Unlisted in Castenholz (RN-C16)	Castenholz	48	20
Unlisted in Castenholz (RN-C17)	Castenholz	46	21
Unlisted in Castenholz (RN-G3)	Castenholz	47	20
RHODE ISLAND			
Blackstone Canal and Bank	Kazanjian	22	12
Confusing Locations	Kazanjian	14	18
Free Advertising? (Grocers & Producers Bank)	Kazanjian	13	12
Home Bank - request for information		14	20
Manuscript Changes of Bank Names to Grocers & Producers Bank	Lipson	29	12
Village Bank, Smithfield		4	6
Village Bank, Smithfield		5	9
Whatever Happened to Richmond Switch	Kazanjian	37	24
SECURITY PRINTERS			
Security Printers - Third Edition	Spence	18	19
Security Printers - Third Edition, Update	Spence	17	21
SOUTH DAKOTA			
Once in a Blue Moon	Hohertz	39	4
Taking in the Washing	Hornbacher	48	12
SPANISH AMERICAN WAR CHECKS			
A Near Miss (Consol. Kansas City Smelting & Refining Co.)	Hohertz	43	19
National Black River Bank - First Day Usage		43	16
Remember the Maine	Hohertz	46	8
A One and Only	Patetta	3	10
Earlier RN-X7 than 8/2/1898?		14	20
Earlier RN-X7 than 8/8/1898?		11	20
First Day Checks	Patetta	6	8
So Much for Unique	Patetta	5	13
State Bank of Virginia - unusual security device		28	21
SPECIMEN CHECKS			
American Bank Note Company Specimen Checks	Lipson	22	9
Beginner's Luck and Specimen Checks	Boone	28	14
More on Specimen Checks	O'Hare	26	18
Specimen Checks	Lipson	9	5
Specimen Checks	Lipson	10	7
Specimen Checks, The "Pattern" Coins of Check Collecting	Spence	9	4

Article	Author	Volume	Page
STOCK CERTIFICATES			
A Stock Swindle	Cook	5	14
The Captain Kidd Salvage Company	Hohertz	47	4
Will the Bell Toll for Stock Certificates?	Spence	19	21
TENNESSEE			
Bank of Oak Ridge		30	21
TEXAS			
F.A. Piper & Col. Uvalde - check		33	17
Fly-by-Night Bank (1 st State Bank Rio Vista, Texas)	Burnham	31	17
Hoo-Hoo Checks (Beaumont NB)	Stump	5	16
Maypearl, Texas, 1930	Boone	44	22
TRAVELERS CHEQUES			
American Express Travelers Cheques 100 years old	Spence	19	6
UNUSUAL CHECKS			
From My Collection	Spence	42	26
VIGNETTES			
A Science Fiction Vignette	Poleske	39	19
Equal Time (cats)		43	18
More Dogs		43	21
Mules and More	Hortsman	44	7
The Clock on the Bank	Biemer	38	10
The Dog and the Check	Hohertz	42	4
The Dog and the Safe	Boraker	41	20
The Story Behind the Pelican Vignette	Poleske	16	22
Things on Checks	Ivester	43	6
Vignettes - American as Apple Pie	Spence	2	3
WASHINGTON			
Baker Boyer Bank Walla Walla Washington Territory 1869	Carlson	9	9
Circulating Scrip of 1907	Sheehan	23	6
State Bank of Concrete	Spence	10	17
WATERMARKS			
Watermarks for the Check Collector	Stump	1	3
WEST VIRGINIA			
My Grandfather's Quarry	Sowards	39	16
Two for the Price of One!	Stump	4	12
Union NB - altered check		21	10
WISCONSIN			
The Wisconsin Marine and Fire Insurance Co. Bank	Boraker	30	16
WYOMING			
A Presidential Check (W.A. Carter)	Leifer	43	17
W. A. Carter Post Trader Ft. Bridger		6	11

A Conversation Piece

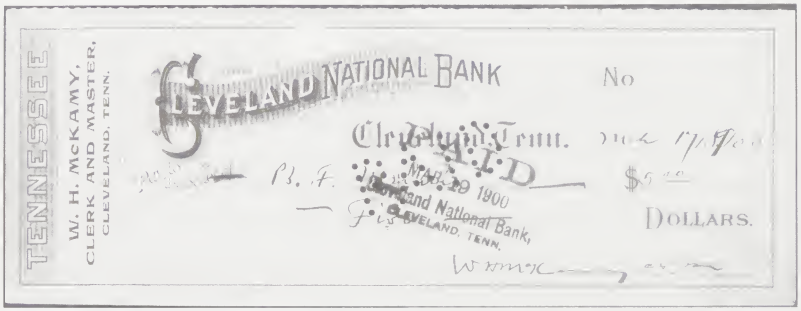


This may or not be the last mule (burro) to appear in *TCC*, but this particular "Rocky Mountain canary" is certainly having the last laugh, probably at the expense of the poor prospector who owned him. - Charles Kemp

One Man - Two Tax Periods

by Tom Carson

Southerners always like a good story, even if they have to do a little addition to make it. Several years ago, I purchased a 1900 check from W.H. McKamy, Clerk and Master, Cleveland, Tennessee. The check was unusual in that it did not have any stamps, but I always assumed that local governments were not taxed under the Spanish-American War Tax Act.



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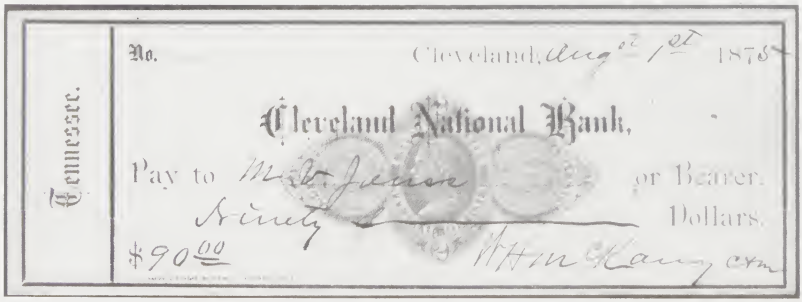
Two months ago I traded a green Uniface Printed RN-C1 on First National Bank of Chattanooga for a RN-D1 on Cleveland National Bank. I did not notice at first that the check I traded for was signed by W. H. McKamy C&M in 1875.



Who was W.H. McKamy? Goodspeeds History of 30 East Tennessee Counties published in 1887 contained the following biography:

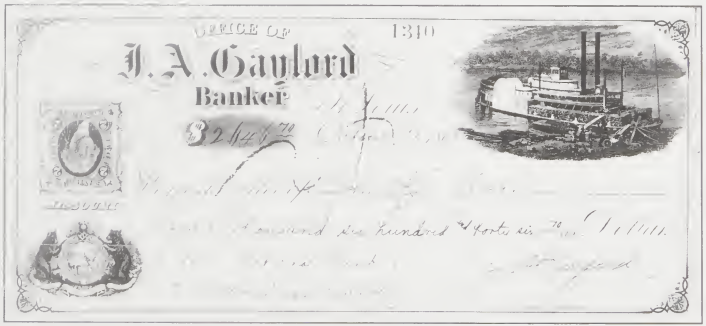
"W.H. McKamy, Clerk and Master of the chancery Court of Bradley County was born in Blount County,Tenn., October 21, 1827. He is the only son of a family of four children born to James and Ann (Hanna) McKamy, both of whom were natives of Tennessee. In 1836 and 1837 the father surveyed the Ocoee District, and the following year moved to Polk County, settling where Benton now stands. In 1851 his wife died and nine years later he moved to Bradley County, where he died in 1862. The grandparents on both sides were Virginians.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the old field schools, and worked on the farm. At the age of nineteen he began merchandising at Benton with a stock of goods given him by his father. In 1856 he moved his goods to Charleston, Bradley County, where he did a flourishing business until the war. In 1861 he went out to serve as captain of Company I, Forty-third Tennessee Infantry, Confederate Army. During the siege of Vicksburg three ineffectual attempts were made to dislodge a force that was undermining a fort. The fourth night our subject , with six companies, after a desperate struggle, drove the enemy away. Many men were lost, and our gallant subject had his left arm shattered, receiving a wound from a ball in the left shoulder. For his bravery he was promoted to the rank of Major, and served as such until the surrender. At the close of the war he was a financial wreck, but paid his debts 100 cents on the dollar. Two years he spent in Georgia in the saw mill business; then he returned to Charleston, where until 1870, he was a successful merchant. In 1870 he was appointed to the position which he now holds. He is a staunch Democrat and Master Mason. In 1854 he married Miss Julia E. Knox of Bradley County, with whom he had twelve children; five sons and two daughters are living. Mrs. McKamy is a consistent member of Cumberland Presbyterian Church."

McKamy was 43 when he accepted the job. He was 48 when he wrote the first check and 73 when he wrote the second check. He must have been quite a man. I currently do not know when he died.

River Packet Vignette

by Ronald Horstman



The draft issued by J. A. Gaylord, Banker, and the die vignette, both engraved by the American Bank Note Company of New York illustrate a river packet docked for supplies and provisions. While most illustrations of riverboats show them steaming up or down the river their travels after dark were very limited, and most pulled over to shore for the night.

The First State Bank of Lovell, Oklahoma

by Herman Boraker

The First State Bank of Lovell, Oklahoma was chartered on September 18, 1908. The original incorporators were O. B. Acton, James W. Lovell, O. E. Acton and M. H. Acton. The initial directors meeting elected O. B. Acton, President, J. W. Lovell, Vice President and O. E. Acton, Cashier and Secretary. The capital stock was $10,000 with the aforementioned individuals owning all outstanding shares, with a term of existence fixed at twenty-five years.

On August 30, 1933, the Articles of Incorporation were amended for an additional twenty years, with the following listed as directors and shareholders: W. J. Thompson, H. C. Wehrenberg and W. J. Thompson, Jr.

On February 29, 1936, the First State Bank of Lovell was consolidated with the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Crescent Crescent, Oklahoma. This consolidation was approved by both boards, with the deposit liability assumed and endorsement of all notes receivable with full recourse of W. J. Thompson. A settlement of cash to equal the difference between said notes and deposits was made.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank, Crescent, Oklahoma, was still a viable institution in the 1980's.

It appears that fourteen of these certificates were issued. The original four were issued to the Actons and Lovell, as noted above, for 100 shares. Subsequently, shares were transferred to John A. Fry, W. J. Thompson, H. B. Currie, H. C. Wehrenberg, and W. H. Thompson, Jr. over the period from 1916 to 1928. Number 16, shown above, remained unissued.

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B. J. Castenholz

RN-B23

The 1982 revision of the "Census" indicated that ten examples of B23 had been reported. Since that time, despite a new example surfacing once in a while, the variety remains a rare type. Only seven B23's were listed in the first editions of the various parts of the *Field Guide*, and none were added to the revised edition of Part 1, "The Western States." However, a B20 with the exact printed form as that for the B23 of Richard Patrick & Co. (of San Francisco) exists and is listed in Part 1.

Another matching pair, a B1 and B23, exists for Jacob Riegel & Co. of Philadelphia. The B1 is dated March 7 and the B23 is from September 9, both from 1867. The faces of the two receipts are from two different printings but nearly identical.

The earliest use listed in the "Census" for a B23 is 6/4/67 and that remains the earliest yet reported, although the Lathrop, Ludington & Co. piece from New York is the earliest I am aware of. Perhaps it should be pointed out that the original "Census" listed only 7 of the variety. All of them were from the same user in San Francisco: Richard Patrick & Co. Therefore we assume the 6/4/67 earliest date is the San Francisco piece.

Most of the B23's I have seen were used in 1867, although a fair portion are from 1868 and even a few from 1869. We have yet to see an unused B23.

It is important to realize that we are dealing with receipts. Receipts take an entirely different route from checks, drafts, stock certificates, bonds, CD's and bills of exchange in that all of the latter normally return to the issuer. That's why great hoards are not uncommon. But receipts leave the issuer never (well, almost never) to return. Receipts do not show up in hoards, normally, but in miscellaneous papers. One time I purchased a large bunch of bank paper just to obtain the one RN in the pile. It was a nice, fresh, unlisted C17!

You may have noticed that, even with the more common B20, there are a vast number of different users but not a lot of any one kind. There are a few exceptions to this "rule." The receipts printed on both sides, mostly from insurance firms such as Topping & Co. and the Niagara Fire Insurance Co., were retained by the issuer after being signed by the recipient of a payout. That explains the different signatures on each side and why they appear in sheets of 4-up. And this gives a clue as to why the C19A (printed on both sides) is so very much more common than the C19 (printed on one side).

The user list doesn't indicate a rarity for the B23 much greater than the C17, but B23's generally sell for about double the price of a C17.

Typeset legend below imprint reading:
Good when issued for the payment of money.

B23 Orange [RN-B23]

Receipts
Imprint centered

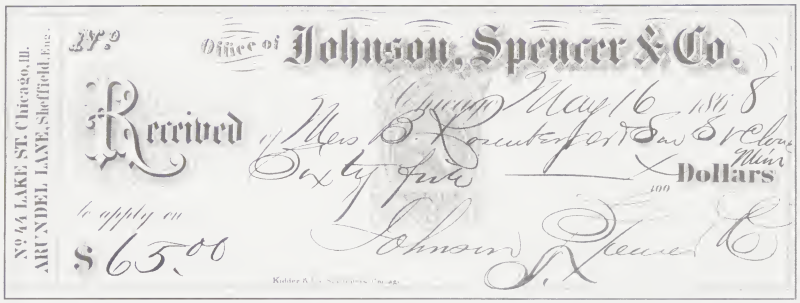
San Francisco, CA Richard Patrick & Co *violet, G&G*	FG1R
Norwich, CT Cottrell, Dyer & Co *green*	FG5
Chicago, IL Field, Leiter & Co EdM	Note 1
— Fuller, Finch & Fuller WEC	Note 1
— Johnson, Spencer & CO *brown* Kid	Note 1
— Reid, Murdoch & Fischer, EdM	BJC
Louisville, KY J.M. Robinson & Co., RAC	BJC
Portland, ME, Twitchell Bros. & Champlin	FG5
New York, NY, Burger, Hurlbut & Livingston, *violet*	BJC
—, R. Hoe & Co.	FG6
—, Lathrop, Ludington & Co., EAK	FG6
—, William J. Peake & Co. S&B	FG6
— Richmond M'f'g Co., SBS	FG6
—, H.S. Terbell & Co.	BJC
Cincinnati, OH, B. Meyburg & Co.	Note 2
Philadelphia, PA, Jacob Riegel & Co., HGL	Note 3

Notes:

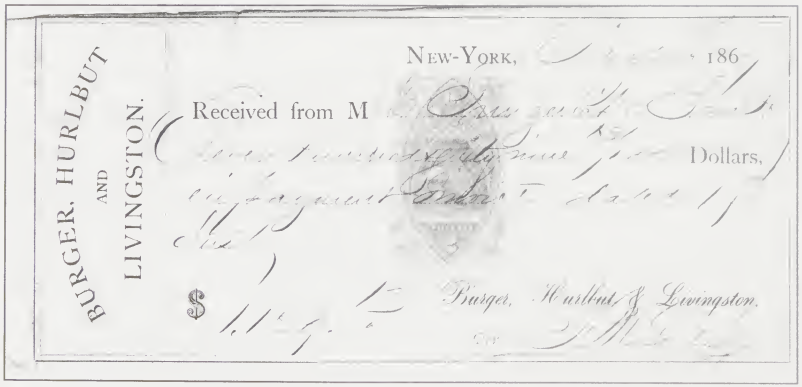
FG1 to FG6 denotes listing in the appropriate part of the *Field Guide*. I have personally inspected each piece.

BJC denotes unlisted in the *Field Guide* but I have personally inspected each piece.

1. From a Western collector.
2. From an Eastern collector.
3. From another Eastern collector.



One of the three unlisted Chicago B23's. It was printed in a reddish-brown color by Kidder & Co. Stationers Chicago.



The Burger, Hurlbut and Livingston B23 receipt, printed in violet. It was found pasted in a receipt book with other documents bearing adhesive revenue stamps only.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In addition to numismatics, one of my other interests is history. After reading the April-June 1998 article "Remember the Maine" which pointed out the Indiana check featured on the cover but did not identify the ship used in the vignette, I pulled my copy of *The American Steel Navy* by John D. Alden, published by the Naval Institute Press, in an effort to identify the ship.

The ship was readily identifiable as the Protected Cruiser USS Columbia, commissioned April 23, 1894.

In reading further, I noticed the following surprising information. The vignette identified as the Iowa is not the Iowa, but has to be either the Kearsarge or its sister ship, the Kentucky! This class of ship differs from other classes by its superimposed turrets for the 13 inch and 19 inch guns along with two smokestacks. The illustrated check was written in 1898 and the Kearsarge and Kentucky were not commissioned until early 1900. They were under construction in 1898 and may have been essentially completed, awaiting sea trials and such before commissioning. The vignette was possible an artist's conception of the completed design.

The Iowa, commissioned in 1897, differs considerably from the check vignette identified as it. Most notable is the absence of the superimposed turrets.

I am attaching line drawings of all three ships which illustrate the various design differences. (Only the Iowa and the Kearsarge are shown below. The Columbia and the associated vignette are illustrated on page 2. - Editor)

Sincerely,
Hal Cherry

The Iowa

The Kearsarge

Letter to the Editor (excerpt)

Dear Mr. Hohertz,

If you haven't already been informed of Lance Campbell's error on Joan Collins I will do so. She was on the show "Dynasty" with John Forsyth, not "Dallas." Her picture did add to the quality of content however in *The Check Collector*!

Best Regards,
Ken Carlson

Ken - I watch almost no television, so there is no chance I would have caught that reference. Thanks! - Bob

Autograph Collecting

The ASCC has many areas of overlap with the International Autograph Collectors Club and Dealer's Alliance. The following article by John Reznikoff appeared in last August's edition of *Autograph Collector*:

I have been dealing in rare stamps and autographs over 20 years now. One of the great things that I have enjoyed about these industries is the tremendous camaraderie that I have developed with my fellow dealers. When just a teenager, I was a director of the New England chapter of the American Stamp Dealers Association (ASDA), and in my twenties I was honored to be on the expertizing board of the Philatelic Foundation (PF).

It was therefore with great pleasure that I, along with several other dealers, founded PADA. The Professional Autograph Dealers Association a little more than three years ago. As past vice president, I can say that my learning experience with PADA - as it has been with the many other organizations I have been involved with over the years - was indeed a rich one.

You cannot imagine how truly thrilled I am to see the emergence of the newest - and undoubtedly the most vibrant - autograph organization to come along in the history of the trade. Finally IACC/DA - The International Autograph Collectors Club and Dealers Alliance - is here. The verdict is in, and there is no doubt that the autograph field now has a solid organization that caters to both collectors and dealers alike. This is the only organization that can, or perhaps would even want to claim, this lofty distinction. By the time you read this article, there will be approximately 100 highly reputable dealers and 350 eager collectors who are members of this new organization.

Established about a year ago, IACC/DA's primary purpose is to correctly educate the autograph community around the world. The dealers who are members have substantial credentials, and adhere to the industry's strongest code of ethics.

Not everyone who sells autographs can become an Alliance member. A dealer requesting membership must be sponsored by an existing member dealer. The applicant must supply at least two references, which are thoroughly checked by an IACC/DA screening committee. In many cases the dealer's inventory is examined by other professionals before admission is granted, thus ensuring collectors that they will be dealing with an established professional who will guarantee the items that he sells.

I have interviewed the officers of this organization and carefully reviewed all of its literature. One impressive fact is that the IACC/DA is the only organization that can boast a dedicated headquarters and library. To date it is the only club endorsed by *Autograph Collector*, the hobby's leading publication. Its 1998 IADA dealer directory, which bears the now widely-recognized gold eagle and shield logo on the front, is a well-organized listing of dealers from seven different countries.

In addition, the IACC/DA monthly newsletter, which is mailed to both collector and dealer members, is the best trade sheet in the business. Twelve full pages of the most up-to-date information in the trade are presented in a very interesting and readable format. Articles are intended to educate, and include such subjects as facsimile signatures, dealer profiles, publication reviews and anything else of interest that is going on in the hobby.

.....

It seems to me that the IACC/DA membership fee - $17.50 for collectors and $60 for dealers - is indeed a bargain.

Perhaps most impressive are the club's future plans. A group insurance plan for health and merchandise coverage currently is being investigated. A show being planned for later this year in conjunction with *Autograph Collector* currently is on the table. Most important - and certainly needed - is the establishment of an autograph expertizing service through which top dealers would offer their opinion regarding the authenticity of signatures for a reasonable fee.

.....

I encourage all those who are serious about autographs to join us. In the IACC/DA, we finally have a club we can call our own, through which we can grow and expand this wonder I hobby of autograph collecting.

To obtain a membership application, write to IACC/DA Headquarters, 4575 Sheridan St. #111, Hollywood, FL 33021 or call/fax (954) 963-5238.

Announcements

Web Page

We have one! Coleman Leifer took it upon himself to put up an initial version of an ASCC web page at http://members.aol.com/asccinfo. It contains a brief description of the ASCC and links to an application form, a page describing *The Check Collector*, and one that contains an essay about the different forms of financial instruments often thought of as checks. There are scanned illustrations on these pages which I think look good, even if I say so myself, since I scanned them in.

All of you with web access, take a look and let us know what you think. And if you have a web page of your own, consider including a link to the site.

Joel Rind has offered to work on keeping the page updated, and several other members have expressed interest.

Checkpool

As of now, the Checkpool has been closed. Please do not send or order checks from it until further notice.

Shows

The 23rd Annual International Paper Money Show will be held on June 18-20 at the Cook Convention Center on 255 N. Main Street Memphis, TN. A Check Collectors Round Table is planned for early afternoon on Saturday the 19th.

Vice-president Michael Turrini is Treasurer and Publicity Coordinator of the Northern California Numismatic Association, Inc., and will host a Check Collectors Round Table at their midsummer Nor-Cal Show on Saturday, July 31. The ASCC will be listed as one of the sponsors of this show. More details will appear in the next issue.

Treasurer's Report

January 1, 1998 to December 31, 1998

Starting Balance			$5,492.11
Income			
	Dues & Advertising	$3647.00	
	Interest Earned	74.85	
	Total	$3,721.85	+$3,721.85
Disbursements			
	Postage	640.86	
	Printing	3,669.68	
	Office	76.67	
	Fees	165.00	
	Total	$4,552.21	-$4,552.21
Ending Balance			$4,661.75

Respectfully Submitted:

Dick Naven, Treasurer

Secretary's Report
Coleman Leifer

This report includes all changes received through March 6, 1999

NEW MEMBERS

1633	BERG, DAVID A. PO Box 348 Portersville PA 16051 (St. Louis Paper Show)	3, 12 (notable persons), 21
1640	C AMP, ROBERT PO Box 1944 Le: TX 78646 (thru Coin World Article)	2 (19th Century), 14, 22, 30-31
1644	CANNON, DAVID PO Box 31129 Cincinnati OH 45231	2 (IN, KY, OH)
1639	CARNEY, NELSON G. 135 Caudill Dr Hendersonville TN 37075 (by Rodney Battles)	2 (Western), 20, 22 (Mining), 23, 26
1642	CHERRY, HARRELL H. 1812 Rainbow Richardson TX 75081	2 (TX, West, Southwest), 4, 20, 23, 26
1638	CLARK, THOMAS J. 20 Current Dr Newton NJ 07860	2 (west of Mississippi), 4, 20-23, 26, 31
1641	FARR, DON 19701 SW 110th Ct, #837 Miami FL 33157 (thru Bank Note Reporter)	2-4 (MS amd TN through 1870), 22 (railroads), 23 (early), 30-31
1636	JAURON, MARK 2100 E. Bengal Blvd, #E203 Salt Lake City UT 84121	
1634	MOORE, DAVID L. (C/D) PO Box 247 Salado TX 76571 (thru Numismatic News)	2 (TX)
1643	SCHAFLUETZEL, DENNIS R. 1900 Red Fox Ln Hixson TN 37343 (by Tom Carson)	1, 2 (Greely CO and Chattanooga, TN)
1635	STAINSBY, ROBERT 715 4th Av North Great Falls MT 59401 (by Russ Hornbacher)	2 (early MT), 21-22, 26, 31
1637	SWORDS, BRIAN V. 21 Davey Dr West Orange NJ 07052 (thru the Internet)	1, 3-4, 11-12, 30

ADDRESS CHANGES

1358	BELL, CYRIL F. (C/D) c/o Cylix, Inc. 4465 Riverside Dr Lilburn GA 30047
1249	BENICE, DANIEL PO Box 5708 Cary NC 27512
1086	BRANCH, CARLISLE M. PO Box 547 Powhatan VA 23139
1584	BRANSCOMB, KEN 855 Trosper Rd, SW, #108-131 Tumwater WA 98512-8108
1140	BUDA, THOMAS B. PO Box 315 Wyckoff NJ 07481
1548	GORITY, RICHARD D. Crown Court Apartments 7900 E. Princess Dr., #1269 Phoenx AZ 85255
0743	HERITAGE COLLECTORS SOCIETY, Box 2131 Doylestown PA 18901
1215	KEMP, R. F. 16 La Punta Orinda CA 94563
0906	KETTERLING, DON Goldline International, Inc. 100 Wilshire Blvd., 3rd Floor Santa Monica CA 90401
0840	MCDONALD, DOUGLAS B. (C/D) 4790 Caughlin Pkwy, #500 Reno NV 89509
1397	MCKENZIE, LEE F. PO Box 807 Riverton UT 84065
1354	PRYOR, JOHN D. PO Box 10200 Parkville MD 21234-8200
1066	RIVET, ROLAND PO Box 41424 Providence RI 02940-1424
0883	WILSON, JOHN W. 8733 W. Burdick Av Milwaukee WI 53227-4528
0724	WITHERS, SAM (C/D) PO Box 19916 St. Louis MO 63144

DECEASED

1001 DEVINCENT, ANTHONY J.

RESIGNED

1551 CARTER, BEN
1559 LENHARD, LOUIS
0015 MUELLER, BARBARA R.
1599 WATSON, PAUL

All directors were relected.

The amendment to the bylaws was passed 173-9.

Member Exchange

Travelers checks wanted. Let me know what you have for sale/trade. Also wanted, David Keable (UK) 1984 book(s) on the subject. **Roland Prajoux**, 5 Residence Les Chaumes, 31520 Ramonville, France. E-mail prajoux@laas.fr.

Wanted: RN-type checks from the Northeastern states. Have RN checks of same area to trade. Will send xerox copies. **Joseph Garsick**, 8-C Maine Ct., Matawan, NJ 07747.

Checks signed by notable personalities sought by long-time collector. Fast cash & best prices paid. **Michael Reynard**, 1301 20th Street #260, Santa Monica, CA 90404, FAX: 310-315-0133, e-mail: reynard@ucla.edu.

Buying celebrity checks. **Myron Ross**, PO Box 9088, Calabasas, CA 91372. Phone 818-346-9220. E-mail HEROROSS@pacbell.net.

Wanted by collector. (1) old coupons, scrip, chits, discount cards, due bills, etc. (2) old transportation tickets from trolley, stage, horse railroad, street railway, bridge, ferry, tollroad, etc. Will pay cash or can offer old checks to trade. Photocopies help. All letters answered. **Dan Benice**, Box 5708, Cary, NC 27512.

New collector is interested in checks from Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio along with references or any information concerning checks or related material from these states. I will buy or trade for items that I can use. Thanks for your help. Dealers lists are welcomed. **David Cannon**, Box 31129, Cincinnati, OH 45231.

Wanted: Missouri fiscal paper. Have for trade three different varities of Iowa ration checks. Also, new find - Exchange Bank, Bloomfield, IA RN X7, have 33 total for trade. Will sell also. **Gregg Voss**, 13 Roland Ave., Ballwin, MO 63021.

Exchange postings will be taken from ASCC members who are collectors only. Postings of 20 words or less are free; please remit $3 each issue for postings of 21 to fifty words. Name and address do **not** count toward the 20 words.

Neither the Editor nor the ASCC can be responsible for compliance with any promises made in postings, or in response to them. Be very clear as to the value you place on your material when discussing a trade. Fairness and common courtesy are to be expected, but common sense must rule.

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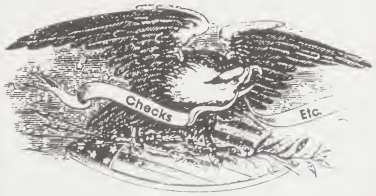

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